

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An electronic device including:
 - a display screen;
 - a keyboard coupled by a processor to the display screen and having a plurality of keys, including a command key and a combined character and navigation key,
 - the command key for sending a command input signal to the processor while depressed in an activated position,
 - the combined character and navigation key being displaceable from a un-depressed position to a plurality of detectable input positions including a character input position corresponding to a character input for a displayable character and at least one navigation control input positions corresponding to a navigation control input for movement of a navigation indicator on the display screen,
 - the processor programmed for causing the navigation indicator on the display screen to move in a direction corresponding to the combined character and navigation key being moved to a corresponding one each of the at least one navigation control input positions when the combined character and navigation key is in such navigation control input position while the command input signal is simultaneously received from the command key.
2. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 1 wherein the character and navigation key is a space bar key and the displayable character is a space character.
3. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 1 wherein the combined character and navigation key provides tactile single click feedback to a user when the combined character and navigation key is moved to any of the input positions.
4. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 1 wherein, in a text entry input mode, the processor is programmed for causing the displayable character to

be added to text displayed on the display screen when the combined character and navigation key is in any of the detectable input positions and no command input signal is simultaneously received.

5. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 1 wherein a first one of the at least one navigation control positions corresponds to a left movement control input and a second one of the at least one navigation control positions corresponds to a right movement control input.

6. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 1 wherein a first one of the at least one navigation control positions corresponds to an up movement control input and a second one of the at least one navigation control input positions corresponds to a down movement control input.

7. (original) The electronic device of claim 2 wherein the device includes a housing having a face in which the keyboard is mounted, the keys including a plurality of alphanumeric keys corresponding to alphanumeric character inputs, the alphanumeric keys being arranged in a plurality of rows across the face, the space bar key being elongated relative to the alphanumeric keys and positioned on the face below the alphanumeric keys.

8. (original) The electronic device of claim 7 wherein the electronic device is a handheld device and the display screen is mounted within the face.

9. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 1 wherein the keyboard includes a resilient member acting on the combined character and navigation key for providing the tactile single click feedback to a user when the combined character and navigation key is moved to any of the input positions.

10. (original) The electronic device of claim 9 wherein the keyboard includes a plurality of switches disposed on a printed circuit board adjacent the character and navigation key for detecting movement of the character and navigation key to the input positions, the plurality of switches including at least first and second switches and a central switch located between the first and second switches, the character and navigation key being displaceable towards the printed circuit board and pivotally mounted relative to the central switch for activating the first switch and the central switch independently of the second switch when a first peripheral region of the character and navigation key is pressed and activating the second switch and central switch independently of the first switch when a second peripheral region of the character and navigation key is pressed.

11. (cancelled)

12 (original) The electronic device of claim 10 wherein the central switch includes the resilient member and the other switches provide substantially no biasing force against the character and navigation key.

13. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 10 wherein the central switch is a dome switch for providing single click tactile feed back when depressed by the character and navigation key and for biasing the character and navigation key into a resting position, the first and second switches being non-dome contact switches spaced apart from respective contact areas of the character and navigation key when the character and navigation key is in the resting position.

14. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 10 wherein the plurality of switches includes third and fourth switches, the first, second, third and fourth switches being symmetrically positioned about the central switch, the character and navigation key being displaceable for activating the third switch and the central switch independently of the forth switch when a third peripheral region of the

character and navigation key is pressed and activating the forth switch and central switch independently of the third switch when a forth peripheral region of the character and navigation key is pressed.

15. (currently amended) A hand-held electronic device comprising:

- a display screen;

- a keyboard mounted within a face of the device and coupled by a processor to the display screen and comprising a plurality of alphanumeric keys and a command key arranged in a plurality of rows across the face between an upper edge and a bottom edge of the face, and a space bar key arranged closer to bottom edge of the face than the alphanumeric keys for inputting a space character for display on the display screen,

- the command key for sending a command input signal to the processor while depressed in an activated position,

- the space bar key being displaceable from an un-depressed position to a plurality of detectable input positions including at least one character input position corresponding to a character input for a displayable character and at least one navigation control input position corresponding to a navigational input for movement of a navigation indicator on the display screen,

- the processor programmed for causing the navigation indicator on the display screen to move in a direction corresponding to the combined character and navigation key being moved to a corresponding one each of the at least one navigation control input positions when the space bar key is in such navigation control input position while the command input signal is simultaneously received from the command key.

16. (original) The hand-held electronic device of claim 15 wherein the space bar key includes a left arrow navigational input component and a right arrow navigational input component.

17. (original) The hand-held electronic device of claim 16 wherein the space bar key includes an up arrow navigational input component and a down arrow navigational input component.

18. (previously presented) The hand-held electronic device of claim 15 wherein the keyboard includes first and second dome switches disposed on a printed circuit board facing an underside of the space bar key, the space bar key being push-ably and pivotally mounted relative to the circuit board and having a left portion for activating the first dome switch when displaced towards the circuit board, and a right portion for activating the second dome switch when displaced towards the circuit board,

wherein the processor causes the navigation indicator on the display screen to effect a left arrow navigation when the first dome switch is activated independently of the second dome switch and simultaneously with receipt of the command input signal and a right arrow navigation when the second dome switch is activated independently of the first dome switch and simultaneously with receipt of the command input signal.

19. (previously presented) The hand-held electronic device of claim 15 wherein the keyboard includes at least first and second directional switches and a central switch disposed on a printed circuit board facing an underside of the space bar key, the space bar key being pushably and pivotally mounted relative to the circuit board and having a left portion for activating the first directional switch when displaced towards the circuit board, and a right portion for activating the second directional switch when displaced towards the circuit board, and a central portion between the left and right portions for activating the central switch when displaced towards the circuit board, the central switch applying a bias against the spacebar key for providing tactile feedback when the spacebar key is displaced towards the circuit board,

wherein the processor causes the navigation indicator on the display screen to

effect a left arrow navigation when the first switch is activated independently of any other directional switches and simultaneously with receipt of the command input signal and a right arrow navigation when the second switch is activated independently of any other directional switches and simultaneously with receipt of the command input signal.

20. (previously presented) The hand-held electronic device of claim 19 wherein the keyboard includes third and fourth directional switches disposed on the printed circuit board facing the underside of the space bar key, the space bar key having an upper portion for activating the third switch when displaced towards the circuit board, and a lower portion for activating the fourth switch when displaced towards the circuit board, the central portion being between the upper and lower portions,

wherein the processor causes the navigation indicator on the display screen to effect an up arrow navigation when the third switch is activated independently of any other directional switches and simultaneously with receipt of the command input signal and a down arrow navigation when the fourth switch is activated independently of any other directional switches and simultaneously with receipt of the command input signal.

21. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 1 wherein the combined character and navigation key has a first navigation control input position corresponding to movement of the navigation indicator in a first direction and a second navigation control input position corresponding to movement of the navigation indicator in a second direction.

22. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 21 wherein the combined character and navigation key has a third navigation control input position corresponding to movement of the navigation indicator in a third direction and a fourth navigation control input position corresponding to movement of the navigation indicator in a fourth direction.

23. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 21 wherein the first navigation control position corresponds to a left movement control input and the second navigation control position corresponds to a right movement control input.

24. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 21 wherein the first navigation control position corresponds to an up movement control input and the second navigation control input position corresponds to a down movement control input.

25. (previously presented) The electronic device of claim 22 wherein the first navigation control position corresponds to a left movement control input and the second navigation control position corresponds to a right movement control input, and the third navigation control position corresponds to an up movement control input and the fourth navigation control input position corresponds to a down movement control input.

26. (previously presented) The hand-held electronic device of claim 15 wherein the space bar key includes an up arrow navigational input component and a down arrow navigational input component.